

Representative Legal Matters

Dr. Akira Inoue

Dr. Inoue has extensive experience in antitrust-related cases, and domestic and international dispute matters, including the following deals:

Illustrative International and Domestic Antitrust Experience

International and Domestic Cartel

- Counsel for a Japanese construction company listed on the first section of TSE in a series of administrative investigation and hearing by JFTC with regard to a bid-rigging case.
- Counsel for a leading Japanese construction company in an administrative investigation and hearing by JFTC with regard to a bid-rigging case.
- Chief coordinating counsel for a US-based, NYSE-listed chemical company in an administrative investigation and hearing by JFTC with regard to an international cartel case. Also acted for the client in a class action lawsuits in the US (in the first trial and the appeal trial).
- Chief coordinating counsel for a US-based, NYSE-listed autoparts company in the investigation and successful plea bargaining with US DOJ with regard to an international cartel case. Also acted as lead counsel for a client in a successful submission of leniency application and administrative investigation by JFTC.
- Lead counsel for a Japanese oil company listed in the first section of TSE in a bid-rigging case in an administrative investigation and hearing by JFTC, and the successful defense of a criminal trial at TDC.
- Counsel for a leading Japanese shutter manufacturer listed in the first section of TSC in bid-rigging, market allocation and price fixing case in a successful leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC.
- Counsel for leading elevator and lift manufacturer based in Europe in international cartel in administrative investigation by EC DG Comp and litigation at General Court.
- Lead counsel for leading elevator and lift manufacturer based in Europe in international cartel in successful leniency submission and administrative hearing by JFTC.
- Counsel for leading consumer electric company listed at the first section of TSE in international cartel case in class action lawsuit in US.

- Lead counsel for leading tourist company listed at the first section of TSE in price fixing and bid rigging case in successful leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC.
- Counsel for leading wire manufacturer listed at the first section of TSE in international price fixing in leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC and chief coordinating counsel in successful plea bargaining with US DOJ and federal court proceeding at federal court in Michigan.
- Lead counsel for leading consumer electric manufacturer company listed at the first section of TSE in auto parts cartel in a successful leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC and a successful plea bargaining with JFTC and proceedings at the federal court in the US.
- Lead counsel for a leading tourist company listed in the first section of the TSE in a domestic bid-rigging case.
- Lead counsel for a Japanese subsidiary company of a leading US Fortune 100 company in a domestic price-fixing case in a successful leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC.
- Lead counsel for a leading US Fortune 100 company in an international cartel case in a successful leniency submission and administrative investigation by JFTC and a successful plea bargaining and agreement with the US DOJ and a proceeding at the federal court in DC.

Abuse of the Dominant Market Position

- Counsel for a leading, US Fortune 100 computer hardware company in an exclusionary conduct in an administrative investigation by JFTC.
- Counsel for a leading US company in a suspected exclusionary conduct in an administrative investigation by EC DG Comp.

Unfair Trade Practice

- Lead counsel for a leading Japanese mega bank in an abuse of superior bargaining position case in an administrative investigation by JFTC and an inspection by JFSA.
- Counsel for a leading company in a suspected exclusionary conduct and interfering the competitor's business in an administrative investigation by EC DG Comp.
- Lead counsel for a leading consumer retail company listed in the first section of TSE in the abuse of superior bargaining position in an administrative investigation by JFTC.

Merger Control

- Counsel for a horizontal business combination between leading air carrier companies in Japan in a merger filing and review by JFTC.
- Lead counsel for a horizontal business acquisition by leading US Fortune 100 company in a merger filing and review by JFTC.
- Counsel for a leading consumer electric company in a horizontal business acquisition in the merger filing and review by EC DG Comp and US FTC.
- Counsel for a leading French atomic power generator manufacturer in horizontal and vertical business acquisition in the merger filing and review by JFTC.
- Chief counsel for a leading Australian air carrier company in a horizontal business acquisition in the merger filing and review by JFTC.
- Advising counsel for a leading advertisement company in a public takeover and merger filing in multiple jurisdictions.
- Advising counsel for a leading power generator company in Japan in a horizontal business acquisition in the merger filing in a multiple jurisdiction.
- Internal Investigation and Compliance Experience
- Counsel for the preparation of an antitrust compliance programme for a leading computer hardware company listed in NYSE.
- Counsel for the preparation of an antitrust compliance programme for a leading autopart company listed in the first section of the TSE.
- Counsel for the preparation of an antitrust compliance programme for a leading autopart company listed in the first section of the TSE and a holding lecture.
- Counsel for an antitrust compliance training for a leading heavy electric machinery manufacturer
- Counsel for an antitrust compliance programme for a Japanese subsidiary of a leading NYSE-listed chemical company.
- Counsel for the preparation of an antitrust compliance programme for a Japanese subsidiary of a leading NYSE-listed chemical company.
- Counsel for the preparation of a ring-fencing measure for a leading oil exploration company listed in NYSE.

- Counsel for the preparation of a ring-fencing measure for a joint venture company funded by a leading trading house by the TSE listed company.
- Counsel for the preparation of a ring-fencing measure for a natural gas exploration company listed in TSE.
- Lecture of an antitrust compliance program for a leading tourist company listed in the first section of TSE.

Private Enforcement

- Won favorable settlement as lead counsel for a leading Japanese fishing company at the Yamaguchi District Court against a US company involving the annulment of contract due to the abuse of the dominant market position.
- Won favorable settlement as lead counsel for a leading Japanese semiconductor company at Tokyo District Court against a German silicon supplier involving compensation valued over USD80 million.

Illustrative Litigation and Arbitration Experience

Complex Commercial Litigation

- Winning judgment as lead counsel for a leading Swedish company at a Tokyo District Court against a leading Japanese company involving damage compensation exceeding USD20 million.
- Successful dismissal of claim as lead counsel for a leading public certified accounting firm at the Tokyo District Court.
- Won favorable awards for a large multinational Japanese trading company at the ICC arbitration involving trade secrets and contract claiming.
- Won dismissal of damage claim against a leading public certified accounting firm as lead counsel at the Tokyo District Court.
- Winning judgment as lead counsel for a leading US computer component manufacturer in a damage compensation claim at the Tokyo District Court.
- Obtain favorable settlement as lead counsel for a leading electric company listed on the first section of TSE against a Korean company involving termination of a long-term supply agreement.
- Obtained favorable settlement for a large multinational Japanese manufacturing company at a California state court involving a consequential and punitive damage compensation claim exceeding USD250 million.

- Successfully represented as lead counsel a leading JASDC-listed company against a leading Japanese company for seeking compensatory damage for delay to develop certain software at the Tokyo District Court.
- Counsel for a leading Japanese telecommunication company against a leading Japanese company at the Tokyo District Court
- Successfully obtained favorable settlement as chief coordinating counsel in a damage compensation claim against a leading Japanese tourist company at the Superior Court in Saipan.

Stockholders' Derivative Action

- Won a dismissal of claim against the directors of a leading Japanese company at the Tokyo District Court.
- Successfully represented as counsel the directors of a leading Japanese golf course management company at the Tokyo District Court.

Product Liability

- Chief coordinating counsel for a leading drug company in multiple product liability lawsuits at a district court in California and Houston.
- Successfully defended a Japanese subsidiary of a leading US Fortune 100 company in a product liability litigation at the Tokyo District Court.
- Lead counsel for a leading elevator manufacturer in a product liability litigation at the Tokyo District Court.

Labor Litigation / Labor Tribunal

- Successfully defended a Japanese branch of a prominent US-based investment bank at the Labor Tribunal.
- Won a dismissal of claim by former employees for a Japanese subsidiary of a US-based prominent investment bank.
- Won a dismissal of claim by former employees for a Japanese subsidiary of a Switzerland-based prominent investment bank.

Financial Litigation

- Successfully represented as counsel a leading Japanese bank against a leading land developer in damage compensation claim over USD200 million at the Tokyo District Court.
- Winning judgment as lead counsel for a leading Japanese bank against a Japanese land developer at the Tokyo District Court.
- Lead counsel for a US-based investment bank against a Japanese company for damage compensation for the default of the investment scheme at the Tokyo District Court.
- Won dismissal as chief coordinating counsel for a leading Japanese insurance company in a claim seeking payment of proceed of re-insurance at the New York state court.
- Won dismissal as chief coordinating counsel for a leading Japanese insurance company in a claim seeking damage compensation at the New York state court.